



# NEWS RELEASE

1303 SW First American Place, Suite 100, Topeka, KS 66604-4040  
Voice (785) 271-2701, FAX (785) 271-2708, WEB [www.rurdev.usda.gov/ks](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ks)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –November 30, 2006

Contact - Harold Alford (785) 271-2701

## ***Rural Housing Facilities Re-Dedicated***

### ***Six USDA-Funded Community Apartment Complexes Remodeled***

**Topeka, KS** – USDA Rural Development State Director Chuck Banks and Agency staff joined representatives of Belmont Management Company and city officials from two Kansas communities yesterday for the re-dedication of housing complexes in Oberlin and Phillipsburg. These two rental housing facilities, along with complexes in Beloit, Minneapolis, Ness City and WaKeeney have recently undergone complete remodeling. The complexes were originally constructed with financing through USDA Rural Development's *Multi-Family Housing Program*, and the remodeling was also financed through USDA and with assistance from the State of Kansas.

Following the Oberlin ceremony and tour of the facility, State Director Banks commented, "We are pleased to see these complexes have been renovated, and are again ready to provide safe and affordable rental housing for residents of these areas. These communities appreciate Congress approving funds to help with the updating of these needed housing facilities. Helping support affordable rural housing is an important goal for USDA Rural Development, a goal that is being achieved across Kansas each and every day."

Ryan Hudspeth with Belmont Management Company remarked, "Our company is working to improve rural housing opportunities in Kansas. We appreciate the assistance of USDA Rural Development. The Agency is great to work with in helping us achieve this important rural housing goal."

USDA Rural Development's *Multi-Family Housing Program* offers financing to provide living units for persons with very-low through moderate incomes. Under the Program, low interest loans are used to build, purchase or repair apartment style housing. The housing must be modest in size, design and cost, but adequate to meet the tenants' needs. Monthly rent must be within limits that eligible occupants can afford to pay.

In his remarks, Banks further stated, "USDA Rural Development is firmly committed to assisting rural Kansas communities and its residents to improve their housing and essential community needs. It's important that Kansans recognize the many success stories being accomplished across the State, and the communities where these successes are happening."

Since 2001, USDA Rural Development has invested over \$457.4 million in funding to expand homeownership opportunities and support rental housing facilities across Kansas. This Agency funding has benefited over 35,000 Kansans and their communities during this period. Since 2001, USDA Rural Development has delivered over \$1 billion of programming for Kansas, supporting over \$4 billion in economic development for the Sunflower State.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improving the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, the Agency provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure in rural America. For additional information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, individuals may contact the Agency's Hays office at 785-628-3081 or visit the Agency's Kansas website at [www.rurdev.usda.gov/ks](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ks)